

SEPTEMBER, 1980

Our Square  
World

# ADVANCE

Through Fathers



SEP 23 1980

Through Pastors



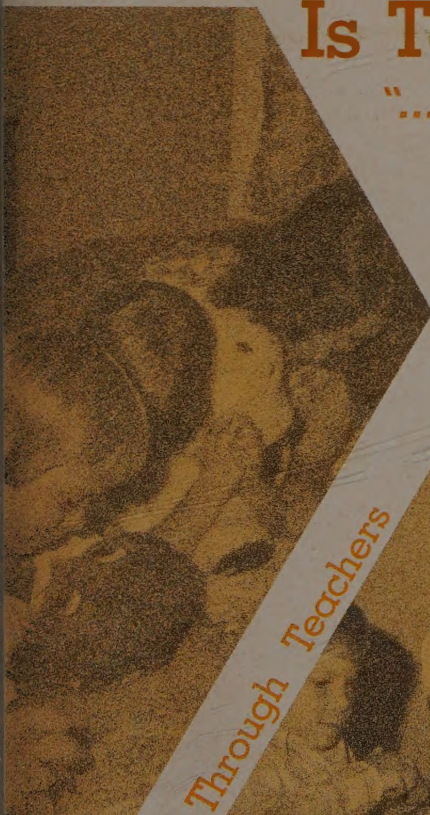
Children



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Is Teaching The Word

*"...that ye might be filled with the  
knowledge of His will in all  
wisdom and spiritual  
understanding."  
Colossians 1:9*

Through Teachers



Through Teachers







## guest editorial

### What Is Christian Education?

In *Theology, & News and Notes*, published for the Fuller Theological Seminary Alumni, was an interesting article, "Church Ministry in the 80's." One of the sections under that main title was the subtitle "Christian education."

Among a number of assumptions listed was that as we enter the 80's, Christian education is in a state of crisis, and this is precipitated mostly by the inability to know what Christian education really is. This becomes even more apparent with the lack of a visible Sunday school in some churches, as it leaves in many instances no central point of reference for the ministry of Christian education.

With this realization, I have taken the time, with the counsel of many, to create a Christian education philosophy, which is intended to deal with the topic of **WHAT IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION?** This has been a most rewarding endeavor, and the brochure is now available upon request. In simple terms, we see Chris-

tian education as the time and place to **TEACH THE WORD.**

However, for any ministry in or out of the church to be lastingly effective it must be highly visible and easily identifiable. It is for this reason I have handled the subject of **HOPE FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL** in a feature article in this issue of the Foursquare World **ADVANCE**. Sunday school is a part of Christian education, and it is the largest, most identifiable and visible part of the total Christian education ministry of most of our local Foursquare churches.

It would do us well then to closely examine in each of our local assemblies the role of Christian education and Sunday school in order to maintain a proper balance with the other missions of the church . . . worship and evangelism.

*By Reverend John W. Bowers  
National Director of Youth  
and Christian Education*

The **Mount Zion Foursquare Chapel** in **Charlotte, N.C.** was **chartered** on Sunday, May 11, with Southeast District Supervisors, Rev. and Mrs. Glenn C. Burris, present for the service. This fast growing church, with approximately 50 present for the chartering service, is presently meeting in a Presbyterian church building.

**Radio stations KFSG** (96.3 FM) in Los Angeles, Ca. and **KHIS** (96.5 FM and 800 AM) in Bakersfield, Ca. are both owned and operated by the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel. For **program schedules** please write to: KFSG, 1100 Glendale Blvd., Los Angeles, Ca. 90026 or KHIS, 521 "H" Street, Bakersfield, Ca. 93304.

The **Western District Convention** will be held September 15-19 at Old Oak Ranch in Sonora, Ca., with guest speaker **Rev. Harold Muetzel**.

The First Foursquare Church of **San Jose, Ca.** recently dedicated its **new fellowship hall**, with Dr. M.E. Nicholls, Vice President and General Supervisor, as guest speaker for the special dedication service.

On September 16-18 the **Midwest District Convention** will take place, with **Dr. Jack Hayford** as the guest speaker. Dr. Hayford will also be speaking in Kansas City, Missouri during the month of September at the **Prayer Congress** which is to support the Festival of Evangelism scheduled for July 1981.

**Armed Forces Mail Call**, an independent, nonprofit organization, is now conducting its sixth annual **Christmas Mail Call**. Christmas greetings are received from around the country and forwarded to Armed Forces Ys, USOs, and various Department of Defense facilities such as hospitals and bases, both in the U.S. and overseas. Anyone with friends or relatives in the Armed Forces may send in their names and addresses, and **MAIL CALL** will forward some mail to them. For information on how you or your church may participate in **MAIL CALL**, please write to: **ARMED FORCES MAIL CALL**, 2170 W. Broadway #514, Anaheim, Ca. 92804.

**Lois Brown**, Continuing Education Consultant of the National Department

of Christian Education, will minister in a three day **Leader/Teacher Training Seminar** in **Williams, Az.** on Sept. 4-6, as well as in the Sunday services on Sept. 7th.

New churches pioneered on the **Southwest District** in the past several months include: **Safford, Az.** pastored by Lassiter Uptain, **Dolan Springs, Az.** pastored by Fred Thurman, and Victory Center in **Lakewood, Ca.** pastored by Don Cornelius.

The **Escondido, Ca.** Foursquare Church (Cathedral of the Valley) celebrated **50 years** of ministry to its community in the month of June. Cathedral of the Valley is pastored by Rev. and Mrs. Coleman Phillips.

**Dr. and Mrs. Howard P. Courtney**, pastors of Angelus Temple, conducted a week of seminars at **PTL** in Charlotte, N.C. during the month of August.

"**The Lord Is My Shepherd**" series, sermons on the 23rd Psalm taught by Dr. Howard P. Courtney, is now reaching into **ten states via satellite**. This program is currently airing over Channels 40 and 52.

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# Salt Left In The Shaker or Voting And The People Of God

"Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God" (Romans 13:1 NASB).

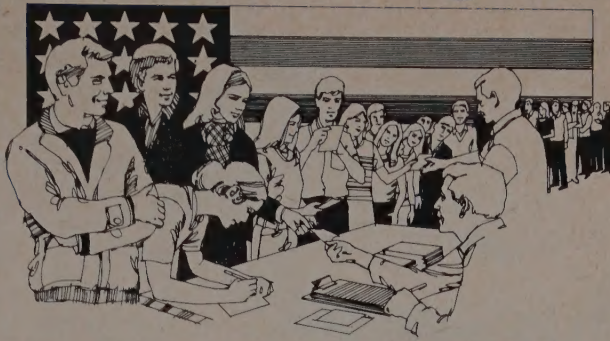
Paul states very forcibly that the role of the believer is to be in perfect order as it relates to his dealings with civil government. Later, in verse 7 of this passage, there is a strong injunction to pay taxes and relate properly to authority. We are left no alternative but to participate in our civil structure as the "authorities" require of us.

Paul's injunction to support the government in a physical/financial sense in Romans 13:7 is matched by the requirement to uphold the civil structure in a spiritual way in I Timothy 2:1. As believers, we are faced with a very clear responsibility to assume our rightful place in society and live out being the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." It is not in spite of our standing as the people of God that we are to participate in our government, it is because of our standing as the redeemed of the Lord that we are urged to take our place of leadership and authority.

We acknowledge the wisdom of the separation of church and state as provided by our Constitution. We reap the benefits of a nation free from the overtones of a state religion which is designed to entrench the status quo and deny the change attempted by the living, growing Church of Jesus Christ. Institutionalized, government-sponsored religion has always debased the purity of God's working and subjected the Church to an unholy compromise where vitality and life are bled off. Our nation has escaped, in a manner ordained by God, the trap of history in the Church/State relationship.

Yet, entwined with the very guarantees by which the American Church has prospered and experienced the greatest degree of freedom found anywhere in the world, unhealthy attitudes have invaded this relationship. The Church has responded to this separation with a strict, virtually legalistic, observance that has hamstrung the Church from truly "salting" our political system with the life that Jesus challenges us to share at every dimension of our personal experience.

Much can be said concerning the Church's failure to mold public opinion on issues of biblical morality and its failure to properly set the pace on issues of human rights. The Church is constantly placed in a position of defending against the onslaught of godlessness instead of penetrating the realm of our government with the Truth. This can most obviously be seen by the track record of believers as it relates to their participation at election time. Elected officials



know that in Bible-believing churches fewer than 40% of the adults are registered voters, and only a portion of that bother to cast their ballots on election day. The salt has been left in the shaker.

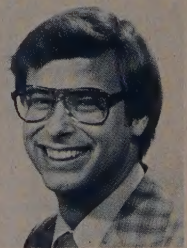
Last November, in California, the voter turnout for registered voters was approximately one out of every six. If we use a figure of 40% for the percentage of Christians who registered to vote, then approximately one out of every 15 adult church members voted in last November's election in California . . . frightening. We pray and believe the Lord for a breakthrough in our land, and fall miserably short in actually allowing ourselves to be used by the Lord as instruments of redemption on election day.

"Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution" (I Peter 2:13 NASB). The word "institution," *ktisis*, comes from the verb "to create." In every other usage in the New Testament, and in the Septuagint, it is understood that this word means that it is a "creation of God." The Bauer, Arndt and Gingrich Lexicon implies that, according to this usage, the institutions derive their authority from God. In commenting on this verse, William Barclay states, "... a man cannot accept the privileges which the State provides without also accepting the responsibilities and the duties which it demands." These responsibilities are part of that divinely ordered relationship which we are to participate in as citizens.

Our civil authority is a republic which cannot adequately function without the participation of its people. It is not an unwholesome violation of Church and State for believing men and women to participate in elections and voice their opinions. In our case, in a democratic setting, it is our duty to share in the process of rulership in the affairs of our nation. Anything less than a wholehearted participation in our elective processes this fall by the Church, is a violation of the Lord's injunction that we submit to the political institutions ordained by God.

"In Bible-believing churches fewer than 40% of the adults are registered voters."

By Reverend Scott G. Bauer,  
Assistant Pastor  
Van Nuys, California,  
Foursquare Church



**EDITORIAL NOTE:** Are you registered to vote? Voter registration is required, usually with a deadline, for balloting in the November election; contact your local Registrar of Voters for details.





Bud Buse, Resident Administrator, repairs flat tires on bicycles for the children. The bicycles are in constant use day and night by the children, as well as the men and women.

By Sharon Nicholson

## Pao and Lu Vang Family Are Building A New Home Through New Life U.S.A.



The Vang family was the first to arrive at New Life U.S.A. At present there are 23 refugees living at the base, with 30 new ones expected any time. Some have already been through the program and have left.

Usually, when we talk about missions, we picture missionaries going off to a foreign country to minister to the people of that land. However, members of the East Hill Foursquare Church in Gresham, Oregon are discovering what it is like to be a missionary right in their own community, as they are reaching out with the love of Jesus to the Hmong refugees from Laos who have settled in the refugee resettlement community at Condon, Oregon. (See story "New Life USA" in March, 1980 issue of the ADVANCE for background of the East Hill congregation's role in purchasing this community in order to assist the refugees in making the transitions into the American society.)

Today, the refugee resettlement community at Condon is a busy place. The refugees are occupied with learning a new language, culture, vocational skills, new ways of living in an

**Editor's Note:** Don Nicholson, New Life USA Chairman, is available to churches to speak about this refugee ministry and to show a slide presentation. He may be contacted at East Hill Foursquare Church, P.O. Box 605, Gresham, OR 97030.

American home, new foods, and most of all they are learning to live in freedom and with hope.

New Life USA, name for this project, aptly describes what is taking place at the old radar base near Condon. Here the Hmong people are receiving life in a physical sense as they now have adequate food and medical care, perhaps for the first time in their lives. In addition, they are receiving the life of Jesus as demonstrated by the staff of 14 who are living and working closely with them, as well as by hundreds of others who are giving food, clothing, furniture and money to this ministry. The refugees are very aware that it is the love of Jesus through His people that is making this new life available to them.

The first refugee family to arrive at New Life USA was that of Pao and Lu Vang. Pao, 32, and Lu, 19, had seven children in their care when they arrived. Three of the children are Pao's by a previous marriage, and three are the children of Pao's brother, who was killed along with his wife in Laos. Lu and Pao have one child, Houa, who is a beautiful and healthy baby.

Blong, Pao's nephew, is responsible for his 18 month old brother, Zue, and would carry him on his back as is the custom. Upon their arrival, Zue was sick and would cry often. Now Zue is a happy baby toddling around, even letting others pick him up and love him—something he would not allow a month ago. Then there is Xay (pronounced Cy), who is known as New Life's "Evel Knievel!" One Saturday morning at the playground, he was caught with his bicycle at the top of the slide ready to make his big jump. Staff members believe him when he says, "Xay number one." Mai Tia, Blong and Zue's sister, is a lovely child and always wears a smile. For her first trip into town, she was dressed in her first dress with a slip. She kept pulling her dress up to admire the lace and ribbons on the slip.

It has been discovered that there is nothing Pao can't do. He is a carpenter, cuts hair, has learned to drive a tractor, and built a snare and caught a bird, just as he did in Laos. However, he had to be told that it is illegal to trap birds in America. Lu is a very pretty, quiet and shy woman. She is a good mother, housekeeper and cook. East Hill Church is very proud of the Vang family and thankful that it has had a part in getting them reestablished in America.

The staff at New Life USA is very busy and finding its work very rewarding. Four people teach English as a second language to the adults and give basic school readiness to the children on a full-time basis. All of the people, adults and children, enjoy school and are usually at the door of the school building waiting for the teachers. The women are taught in their homes so that they can watch the children.

The staff women are also teaching the



## NAE Resolution

Resolution as adopted at the 38th annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals.

"WHEREAS, Social ferment with all of the accompanying moral, economic, and spiritual problems is having a revolutionary effect upon our nation; and

"WHEREAS, Government is of God and is one of His providential provisions for fallen humanity (Romans 13:1-7; Proverbs 8:15); and

"WHEREAS, Civil authority is ordained of God (John 19:11); and

"WHEREAS, The Scriptures teach that Christians are:

1. To be subject to civil authority that is in keeping with the teaching of the Word of God (Romans 13:1-7; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13,14; Acts 5:29)
2. To pray for those in authority (I Peter 2:13,14)
3. To support constituted government by payment of taxes (Matthew 22:17-22; Romans 13:6); and

"WHEREAS, Christians, even though citizens of another world, are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, be it therefore

"RESOLVED, That this 38th convention of the National Association of Evangelicals urge Christians to pray for those in authority; and to remind them that their power is ordained of God and they are responsible to Him; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That Christians be urged to become involved in the political process, to register and to vote; and in view of the need of legislative awareness and positive action within the framework of our Christian responsibility, be it further

"RESOLVED, That all state and local associations of the National Association of Evangelicals be urged to implement the guidelines related to government affairs as stipulated in their manuals, and be it further

"RESOLVED, That Christians be urged to pray for God to guide our nation and especially so as Americans go to the polls to select leaders in this presidential election year."

## Faithful Servants Retire, But Don't Quit

Reverend and Mrs. Vinton Johnson began serving as Foursquare missionaries over 30 years ago in the country of Panama in the year of 1949. Now, after having served 25 years on the foreign field and approximately six years on the faculty of Mount Vernon Bible College, the Johnsons have retired.

Prior to their first missions assignment in 1949, Vinton Johnson taught at L.I.F.E. Bible College at Los Angeles. From there the Lord led them to the country of Panama, where they ministered for 20 years. Six of those years in Panama were spent teaching the Word

Hmong women how to use electrical appliances, how to cook American food, how to use diapers, etc. It is such a joy to see the awe on the faces of the Hmong women when they take their clean clothes from the automatic washing machines. This is far different than washing clothes in a river, scrubbing them with stones! The men are learning basic vocational skills, the use of tools, operating machinery, and English terminology of related items. Several of the men are learning how to weld and some are learning carpentry.

Bud Buse, Resident Administrator, shares: "Perhaps the greatest joy is seeing the frightened, sad eyes of these people when they first arrive change to peace and happiness. There is a gleam and light in their eyes which was not there before." This alone would be a blessing, but there is more fruit than that being realized. Two men, former animists, have received Jesus as their Savior. Surely, "New Life" is being shared with a destitute, hopeless people. 4

of God to the Choco Indians, as well as translating the Scripture into their language.

Leaving Panama in 1966, the Johnsons traveled to the country of Argentina to share the Gospel message. She helped the women and children with family living classes while he led formal classroom studies in the Bible. The living room of their home, which was located in Buenos Aires, became the classroom for 24 students who have now gone on to become the pastors and teachers in that country.

In 1971, this dedicated couple returned to the United States for one year and then back to Panama in 1972. From 1972-74 they continued missionary work, only this time in the country of Venezuela.

Then Mount Vernon Bible College in Mount Vernon, Ohio was privileged to have them join its staff in 1974. While there, Reverend Johnson taught Greek to the Bible school students, and Mrs. Johnson found herself very actively involved in the Eastern District U.F.W. program, as well as Women's Fellowship Aglow and Christian Women's Club.

The Johnsons served at M.V.B.C. until May of this year, when they were honored with a retirement reception at the M.V.B.C. Chapel. One student so ably expressed in a pen written note what a blessing the Johnsons have been to the many people their lives have touched. The student shared that although he did not have the opportunity to be in one of Reverend Johnson's Greek language classes, the Johnsons had taught him the language of love.

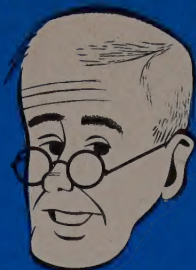
This lovely couple, who have certainly given their lives for the cause of Christ, have not stopped yet! Now residing in Riverside, California, they are counselors at a local mortuary where they minister through the many services rendered to the bereaved. Their vast experience and great knowledge of the love of God will certainly aid them in their new ministry for the Lord! 4



Top: Although retired, Reverend and Mrs. Vinton Johnson continue to minister the love of Jesus; The Johnsons dedicated many years of service as missionaries in the country of Panama.



# RIGHT OR WRONG... WHO KNOWS?



A few days ago someone told the story of a man who had deceived the I.R.S. His conscience troubled him so that he could not sleep. In order to get some rest, he wrote the Department the following letter: "Gentlemen: Last year I cheated on my income tax return. I am enclosing a check for one hundred and fifty dollars. If I still cannot sleep, I will send you the rest."

Like the ancient Roman god Janus who had one head with two faces, each looking in opposite directions, the above story is that of a man trying to go in two directions at once. He is not unlike a vast number in our own society today who have no deep-rooted convictions about what is right or wrong. Such thinking follows the statement of a former Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who said: "Nothing is more certain in modern society than the principle that there are no absolutes." We are left with the humanistic theory that "there is nothing which is universally right or wrong." Such thought tells us that "goodness and badness" are not permanent or built-in qualities of anything. The removal of absolutes does for our ability to make sound moral judgments the same thing demagnetizing a compass would do. The needle that should point in a single direction can swing at will.

In other words, if we follow the teaching of Dr. Joseph Fletcher, we would arrive at the conclusion that there is no way in which an individual can predetermine, at least for another person, what is right or wrong, good or bad. Action taken at any given moment where a moral decision is required would have to be based upon the situation at that time. No earlier law or code should bear upon that decision.

This philosophy, which has been labeled as "situation ethics," does not deny that there are some principles that have developed through the experience of living. But the situationalist refuses to be restricted or bound by anything and feels that to require anyone to stick to rules is wrong.

Fletcher, the renowned Professor of Ethics, suggests that the Ten Commandments should

read: "Thou shalt not covet . . . ordinarily. Thou shalt not kill . . . ordinarily. Thou shalt not commit adultery . . . ordinarily." In other words, Fletcher said, "For me there are no rules at all, none at all."

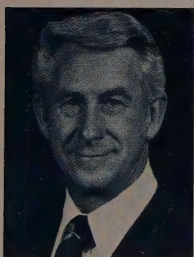
The situationalist does have one weak principle. That is, when you act, act in loving concern. "Apart from the helping or hurting of people, ethical judgments or evaluations are meaningless." Fletcher said, "Maybe in some situations unmarried love could be more moral than married unlove."

As a result, we are today faced with a society that America or the Church has never had to face before. We have replaced God's Word, the Christian ethic upon which our nation was built, with the weather vane of human emotion. Judgments, morals and ethics are free to respond to every wind that blows. Man, recognizing no law of God as a governing force, has become his own god. He alone makes the moral decisions. He is a law unto himself. History tells us that the source of law in any society is the god of that order. In our time the people of the state are the source of law by which the majority determine what is right or wrong. Having abandoned biblical principles we have the "blind leading the blind."

Having followed this line of reasoning we have more violent crime than ever, more problems in labor-management, and more dishonesty in high places. We have more criminals in our streets, more families in ruin, and more looting and burning of our cities. Recently, in our own city of Portland, Oregon our Police Chief said that 51% of the crimes committed in Portland are committed by teenagers. Politics are a tangled mess. Our economic woes are frightening. We build higher fences, employ more security guards, add millions of dollars to our insurance premiums, install more alarm systems and still neither we or our property is safe.

The question is asked, "How do I make a moral judgment?" Before we go further with an answer, let's take a look at our subject of ethics, law and justice. William Barclay points out "the word ETHICS comes from the Greek word ETHOS and ETHOS means a HABIT or

By Dr. Allan Hamilton,  
Pastor  
Portland, Oregon,  
Foursquare Church





CUSTOM." Are we to say then that ethics are simply habits and customs that have become permanent and since we did them once, we are to do them now?

The Greek word for LAW is NOMOS. Nomos in the Greek dictionary gives the meaning "AN ACCEPTED CUSTOM." Are laws simply an old habit that has been carried over and are now an obligation? There is another Greek word DIKE . . . JUSTICE. Its meaning is "AN ACCEPTED STANDARD OF CONDUCT." Barclay asks, "Are we talking about habits and customs, or does it go deeper than that?"

In Washington, D.C. there is a department of the government called the Bureau of Standards. Its responsibility is to maintain a fixed standard of all measurements in our country. There is a standard measurement for a foot, a pint, a gallon, a pound, etc. All measuring devices are calibrated against this common standard. This assures uniformity of all measurements. Without that single standard there would be no way of saying that my 12 inch ruler is more accurate than your 12 inch ruler. Without a fixed standard all measurement becomes a matter of opinion.

In the Old Testament, "ethics is conformity of human activity to the will of God." Here is where we as Christians turn to the one accepted standard of measurement for human conduct. We turn to the Word of God which is His revealed will. It is the Creator giving, making known His will and way to His creation; not for His own pleasure, but for humanity's good. It is not to impose upon mankind restrictions for selfish reasons, but so that man would know how to live with his brother. Our code of ethics and our laws are not simply old customs and habits that are now forced upon us. They are the ways of life taught by a loving heavenly Father who had the highest of interest in the happiness and well-being of His created beings.

While our country was built upon the time-honored principles of the Christian ethic—the Church, we who are the Church, above everyone else in all of this world have but one source from which to draw conclusions or to make judgments as to what is right or wrong. That one source . . . His Word.

Jesus Himself is a strict moralist. He believed and obeyed the commandments. His entire life was built around the principle of always doing that which pleased the Father. God said, "Thou shalt not lie. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not commit adultery . . ." (Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20:3-17). When the Scripture is not clear on a matter of conduct, my own rule of thumb has been, "What would Jesus do if He were here?" For me, that has settled a lot of questions.

4

## Christian Trends at a Glance...

... Atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair's 33-year-old son, the schoolboy plaintiff in a 1963 suit that ended prayer in the public schools, says he feels responsible for the destruction of the moral "fiber" of American youth. "Looking back on the 33 years of life I wasted without faith and without God, I pray that I may be able to correct just some of the wrong I have created," William Murray of Houston, Texas said in a letter published in the *Austin American Statesman*. Mr. Murray was 16 when named as the plaintiff in the school prayer suit. "The part I played as a teenager in removing prayer from public schools was criminal," he said. (*EP News*)

... One Chinese lady arrested for her faith had such a joyful and powerful witness that the official who registered her in prison accepted Christ on the spot. She said to him, "Today is not the day I came to register myself as a prisoner. It is the day you registered in the Kingdom of God." When sentenced, she put aside the court's decision without looking at it. She was asked, "Are you not interested?" She replied, "It does not matter. Whether it is 10 or 100 years, each day will be a day with the Lord." A guard shouted to her, "Stop smiling!" She answered, "I do not smile." Another prisoner explained, "Your eyes smile always, and your face glows with joy even when you don't smile." (*Asian Outreach*—JCW)

... Idaho has become the 17th state to pass a measure calling for a constitutional convention to propose an anti-abortion Human Life Amendment to the United States Constitution. (*Christian Life*)

... The Princeton Religion Research Center, George Gallup, Jr., President, says:

- \*Four in ten American teens are currently receiving religious training.

- \*Belief in God in America has remained nearly the same during the past 30 years (94% believe) while in Scandinavia it has dropped from 81% to 65%.

- \*42% of Evangelicals are involved in volunteer work compared with 26% of nonevangelical churchgoers.

- \*Need for leadership, hopelessness, unhappiness, gullibility and spiritual emptiness were thought to be the primary reasons why people join cults in a survey taken in the aftermath of the Jonestown tragedy. (*Message of the Open Bible*)

... In Vitebsk (USSR), Zoia Titova, a member of the Communist Youth organization, was caught practicing black magic. When her case was brought before the assembly of Communist youth, it unanimously refused to punish her, though members who decide to worship God are expelled. The Communists consider it wrong to believe in God. For this "crime" about 10,000 children have been separated from their families and are kept in special re-education camps. But the devil is acceptable. His worship is permitted. (*JESUS to the Communist World Inc.*)

... "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can." — John Wesley



# Christian Education Is Teaching The Word Hope For The Sunday School



By Reverend John W. Bowers  
National Director of Youth and  
Christian Education



In 1952, 6% of those surveyed had received no religious training as a child . . . in 1965 that percentage had grown to 9% and in 1978, 17% indicated that they had received no religious training. Despite these sobering statistics on national Sunday school trends, there is the first light of a new dawn. There are children, youth and adult education programs today that are enlisting new members and growing with explosive vitality in every denomination and in every area of the country. These Sunday schools are reaching, winning and discipling people into active fellowship within the life of the local church.

Today, while some Sunday schools are fading into oblivion, others are thriving with contagious vitality. Why? Can it be that the quality of teaching makes all the difference in a growing Sunday school? Or do growing Sunday schools require several dozen buses and pandemonious quarterly attendance contests? Can education classes that provide meaningful Christian growth and development become contagious and turn enrollment decline into active new growth?

New knowledge on why churches grow or decline has emerged from the study of American church growth. During the 1970's considerable research and attention has focused on the growth and decline of churches, as well as developing strategy to stimulate new growth.

But what of the Sunday school? Research conducted by the Institute for American Church Growth now indicates that a growing church does not, by any means, insure a growing Sunday school. Even as membership patterns in many churches seem to be turning from decline to growth, Sunday school growth continues to plummet. Can the church growth movement provide any insights to the current problems of the Sunday school?

A major new book is soon to be released on the numerous unique applications of church growth to the Sunday school, *HOW TO GROW A SUNDAY SCHOOL*, by Win Arn. Here is one of the significant findings: A major difference between Sunday schools that are growing and Sunday schools that are not growing can be stated simply—PURPOSE. Church growth indicates that the "purpose for being" is nearly always different in declining Sunday schools than in growing ones.

While a concern for the spiritual health, personal growth, and the social fellowship of Christians within existing Sunday schools is necessary, in declining Sunday schools concerns have become the entire preoccupation of the classes and curriculum.

What happens when the priority of Christian education focuses exclusively on nurturing existing Christians? People are urged to participate in the Sunday school because it is *there*. Thus programs, activities and classes are focused almost exclusively on the *condition* of the people. The assumption that Sunday school growth will naturally result from personal growth and spiritual development of existing members is one of the primary reasons that many Sunday schools are stagnating. Self-centered education does not motivate people toward involvement in the church's mission of growth and outreach. The contrary, education that concerns itself with only the spiritual nourishment of members contributes significantly to a defensive mentality that effectively seals off the Sunday school from the outside world.

## Outward-Focused

The purpose of most growing Sunday schools, on the other hand, is quite different. Outward-focused Sunday schools exist primarily to participate in Christ's Great Commission and to train and equip laity for mission in the world. While concern for spiritual growth and nurture of existing Christians is an important part of the curricula and activities, it is as a means to an end, not an end in itself.

"Christian education is missionary education by definition. It is participation in Christ's mission to join in God's mission to the world. God's mission, His purpose and plan for the world is that He desires 'all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth' (Tim. 2:4)." (Russel, Letty M., *CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MISSION*)

Outward-focused Sunday schools, in contrast to inward-focused Sunday schools, view evangelism and education as two sides of the same coin; two tasks to achieve one goal: reaching out Christ's commission . . . to reach and disciple lost people . . . is the motivation for education in most growing Sunday schools.

"Christian education cannot be successful unless it is evangelistic. To fail here is to fail our primary reason for existence." (H.W., *CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH*)

In a survey of 250 pastors and educators from various denominations, inquiring as to the reasons for the present decline of the Sunday school, one of the two most common reasons was "classes not concerned with reaching/recruiting new people." An out-



l Sunday school is growth-centered for  
 pose of teaching the Word and in turn  
 g disciples. And the result is growth ...  
 ves the increase.

ould be a mistake to conclude that in  
 o turn a Sunday school around from de-  
 o growth, a concern for spiritual nurture  
 ersonal growth must be abandoned in  
 of a "mission emphasis."

st did not abandon His disciples after  
 ecided to follow Him. He spent much  
 d effort teaching them and encouraging  
 n their new life. The spiritual growth and  
 y of Christ's disciples was essential for  
 carry out His goal.

Christ's goal was not to develop a "class  
 tual giants." The training and teaching  
 disciples was a means to an end, prepar-  
 m to be effective in reaching and win-  
 ners. The Book of Acts is replete with  
 ts of the growth of the early Church and  
 tral role of Christ's "students" in build-  
 Church.

ifference between the inward-focused  
 e outward-focused Sunday school, and  
 t cases a declining Sunday school and  
 g one, is simple. One sees Christian  
 and spiritual maturity as an end in it-  
 e other sees growth and maturity as an  
 al part of Christian education. But it is  
 goal, it is the supporting foundation. The  
 making disciples.

h and Sunday school leaders, for the  
 art, continue to have a strong commit-  
 o the Sunday school. And well they  
 have. The Sunday school provides  
 unique contributions to the life of the lo-  
 rch that are essential for growth:

he Sunday school is a great source of  
 angelistic outreach to friends and rela-  
 es of existing members.

he Sunday school provides the oppor-  
 nity for establishing and developing per-  
 nal relationships, which, in turn, greatly  
 pport the incorporation of new mem-  
 rs into the life of the church.

he Sunday school provides a unique op-  
 rtunity to teach Bible knowledge and to  
 dy the implications of the Christian life  
 today's world.

he Sunday school is a natural structure to  
 eate new classes which appeal to a wide  
 ectrum of new people.

he Sunday school provides a system for  
 e church to minister to the entire family  
 d to include every age group in this  
 nistry.

d, the Sunday school is the most natural  
 rganization within the church for training  
 d equipping large numbers of laity for  
 work to which Christ has called His  
 urch.



Successful Sunday  
 Schools see evangelism  
 and education as two  
 tasks to achieve one goal.

The time has come to take a fresh look at the  
 Sunday school ... to see our Sunday school  
 through growth eyes. This means, above all, to  
 see with clear understanding the purpose to  
 which we are called. Our past history has a rich  
 heritage. The future could be equally as bright.  
 Let us, in obedience to Christ, go into all the  
 world and make disciples.

It is understood and proven that growth, to be  
 sustained, must be supported by a strong teach-  
 ing of the Word. Far more of the growing  
 churches are doing it with a strong Christian  
 education base than without. John Vaughn, in a  
 soon to be published book, asks, "Have you  
 ever heard of the First Baptist Church in New  
 York City?" He goes on to note that in the 30's  
 this church in New York City rivaled First Bap-  
 tist in Dallas as the largest SBC congregation.  
 The differences, historically, he feels, is the fact  
 that First Baptist in New York chose to build its  
 congregation through worship and celebration,  
 while Dr. Criswell, as a new pastor, chose to  
 reemphasize the Sunday school. The contrast  
 in size of the two churches today is startling,  
 with the Dallas fellowship being one of the  
 largest Southern Baptist congregations in the  
 world. Doubtless, a proper balance between  
 worship, evangelism, the teaching of the Word  
 and discipling is necessary if continued growth  
 is the result. Christian education, which in-  
 cludes Sunday school, is a valid time and place to  
 TEACH THE WORD AND DISCIPLE.

While the convictions are mine, I am in-  
 debted to Dr. Win Arn and his new publication  
*HOW TO GROW A SUNDAY SCHOOL* for a  
 lot of the information contained in this article.  
 Used by permission.







## international update

There is a very important and urgent thread woven throughout the Gospels as Jesus bears down again and again on His followers to pray and to give of themselves so that ALL PEOPLES everywhere might have the privilege of hearing the message of true liberation from sin with blessed hope of life eternal.

Missionaries and national workers, through Foursquare Missions International, are diligently following Jesus; fervently working to reach persons in "other cities" (Luke 4:43) by becoming "fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19), as they launch their nets out in the deep waters where there are so many lost in the murky depths of sin. Indeed, each one senses great "compassion on the multitude" (Matt. 15:32) yet to be reached.

Praise the Lord for the vision He is giving people around the world. This is a worldwide responsibility. We all share together in praying, giving, and going.

**DATE**

**LINE: Europe**

**Greece** (George and Margarita

*First Foursquare Church in Curitiba, Brazil celebrated 25 years of ministry.*

Patsaouras)—As the Patsaouras are ministering in the Name of Jesus with compassion for the people of Greece, wonderful healings are occurring in the lives of those who attend the Athens Foursquare Church. Due to prayer for these brethren, arthritis and a circulatory blood problem were completely cleared up, and a tumor disappeared.

In addition, the Lord has blessed His ministry in the villages of Lacionia and Messenia, as many precious souls have accepted Christ as Savior and are continuing to grow in His grace. One such person is a captain of a ship who has seen the Lord bless his own ministry as he has witnessed the salvation of many of his crew members.

**DATE**

**LINE: Latin America**

**Honduras** (Mike and Sue Weilein)—Missionaries Dean Truett and Mike Weilein held an open air campaign in the city of Choluteca for one week in March. The result was some thirty first-time decisions for Christ, several recipients of the infilling with the Holy Spirit, and people healed in their bodies. The campaign helped to establish the church which is presently under construction in Choluteca.

**Argentina** (Mike and Lolita Frederick; Edwin and Vonitta Gurney)—There was great rejoicing at the opening of a new area for the Foursquare Gospel in the province of Corrientes. The city of Paso de los Libres, located right on the border of Brazil, was visited by a Foursquare minister from the Buenos Aires area. He came back with glowing reports of how well the Gospel was received and the possibility of a new congregation being formed as part of the Body of Christ. Already, there are 75 people who have purchased property in this area on which to construct an edifice in which to worship Jesus.

Meanwhile, the Gurneys are excited about what God is doing in preparation of workers, who will extend themselves in outreach throughout the entire nation of Argentina. There are four TEE (Theological Training by Extension) centers in the city of Buenos Aires, with three of these having been opened

just this year. One of the rewarding aspects involves the fact that three graduates from the Foursquare Bible Institute are now instructors in the TEE centers. One of the training centers is located in a new church in the outskirts of Buenos Aires. There are eight young people from this church, which is just eight months old, already preparing for a more effective ministry in the area through TEE. These young people are looking forward to starting home meetings in that part of the city.

**Panama** (Loren and Cheilon Edwards)—A lady from the Colon Foursquare Church went to Mexico to visit friends. While there, she visited homes from door to door. At one house she greeted the man who opened the door with a warm "God bless you!" She witnessed to him about the Lord, invited him to a church service, and went her way.

That evening he came to church and shared with the congregation what had taken place in his life that afternoon. Several years before, he had to retire from a mining job due to an incurable lung disease. When he opened the door to the woman that day, he felt something good happening in his lungs when she greeted him with "God bless you!" Every time she spoke those words, his lungs felt better. He had to come to church to share that now his lungs were healed and that he wanted to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!

**Brazil** (George and Jane Faulkner)—The First Foursquare Church in Curitiba celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a united meeting of all the Foursquare churches in that city. There were 7,000 people present for the occasion, which was held in a sports arena. Thousands of people have received Christ into their lives as this great church has reached out its hands in love to those in great need of the Savior's touch.

**DATE**

**LINE: Asia**

**Hong Kong** (Ronald and Carole Williams)—Recently, a youth group, which had met in the Williams' home, was "full of questions" on what it is like to be a part of a minister's family. There was excellent interaction and exchange of ideas



and thoughts on the subject. Surely, God is doing a mighty work in the lives of young people in Hong Kong. Often, visitors to Foursquare churches in this area are thrilled to see "wall-to-wall" young people praising the Lord, as well as to sense their urgency to carry the Gospel to the Chinese people yet untouched by the Gospel.

**Sri Lanka** (Richard and Betty Kiser)—God has reminded the Kisers to "be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Indeed, they are seeing the mighty power of God as the work they began in Anpuvalipuram is continuing to grow. In one week, three more souls acknowledged Christ as Lord of their lives. Please remember Richard and Betty in your prayers as they are anxious to see the Lord do even more in the country of Sri Lanka.

**Japan** (David Masui)—Taniyama, a city in the southern part of Japan, has had a wonderful experience! Mike Kamiya, pastor of the Hakodate Foursquare Church in northern Japan, held an evangelistic campaign along with a musical group in the city of Taniyama. More than 130 people were in attendance each night, with many more standing outside listening to the Good News. Surely, the Lord was faithful and He gave many wonderful dividends, as forty people made first-time decisions for Christ!

## DATE LINE: South Pacific

**Papua New Guinea** (Phil and Millie Star)—The Lord is blessing the work in Papua New Guinea as the people are entering into a new growth of learning to tithe and give unto the work of the ministry. For example, Pastor Tiuke of Kundiawa preached a challenging message to his congregation, mentioning that churches in Australia and America had sent missionaries, paid air fares, built churches and supported pastors. He continued by saying, "now it is time for us to grow up, accept responsibility, and take the Gospel to other areas." Following the message, he was amazed to discover the large amount in the outreach offering. In addition, the regular Sunday morning offerings have increased! 4



### KNOW YOUR MISSIONARIES—

Ron Williams accepted Christ as his Savior in 1953 at the age of 13, but drifted from the Lord during his teen years. He entered the U.S. Air Force and was assigned to the U.S. Army Language School at Monterey, California, where he studied the Russian language. During this time he recommitted his life to Jesus. After serving two years in Japan, Ron returned to the United States and en-

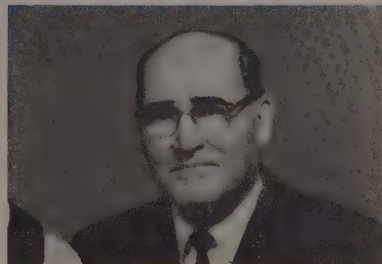
tered L.I.F.E. Bible College. While at L.I.F.E., he met Carole Lane, who was also a student. They were married and upon graduation in 1965, they went to Surrey, B.C. to pioneer a Foursquare church. While there they felt a very definite call of the Lord to make themselves available for ministry overseas.

In October, 1969 they left the U.S. with their sons, Scott and Mark, to serve Jesus in a very congested and heavily populated part of the world—Hong Kong. Derek, their youngest son, was born in Hong Kong in 1971. Upon a return trip to Hong Kong after being on furlough in the U.S., Derek, then six years of age, stated: "It sure is good to be home." Truly, when the missionary is happy and at peace in the place where God has placed him, it reflects in the lives of his children. Ron and Carole deeply love the Lord and have been wonderfully used in many areas of ministry. 4

### Faithful Missionary Receives His Heavenly Reward

Reverend Frank Moncivaiz, veteran Foursquare missionary, went home to be with his Lord on May 20, 1980. Reverend Moncivaiz was born in Mexico and migrated to the United States at an early age. While attending L.I.F.E. Bible College, he met and married Miss Juventina Bernal. Born to their union was Daniel. Shortly afterwards, they were appointed as Foursquare missionaries to the Republic of Panama, where they served for over a decade. They were pioneer missionaries of the Foursquare work in the central provinces and carried on the ministry often at the risk of their lives.

During World War II, they were appointed to Mexico, where they founded the Foursquare Church in that nation. They went to the third largest city, Monterrey, and in a short time started a church in that metropolis. From the Monterrey church, the work has extended through the years into several states. At the time of their retirement in 1975, they had been under continuous Foursquare missionary appointment more years than any other Foursquare missionary. Today, the work started in Mexico by



Frank Moncivaiz consists of seventy churches, forty meeting places, three Bible schools and one hundred and eleven credentialed ministers. Praise God for the great work He performed through Brother Moncivaiz, a consistent and faithful servant of the Lord! 4

## District Missionary Giving

### District Jan.—July 1980

Angelus Temple .....	\$97,380.97
Canada .....	41,708.54
Eastern U.S. ....	78,615.01
Eastern Canada .....	3,658.89
Great Lakes .....	103,313.81
Midwest .....	101,669.03
Northwest .....	208,820.49
South Central .....	47,486.11
Southeast .....	37,812.36
Southern California .....	188,119.70
Southwest .....	138,589.61
Western .....	118,272.35



## Biblical languages

# BOUGHT WITH A PRICE



The last in a series  
of six articles by  
Dr. Sam  
Middlebrook,  
Professor and  
Dean of Faculty  
at L.I.F.E. Bible  
College.



When I was a boy, my family used to visit New Orleans almost every summer. One of the places we would visit was "The Cabildo." Though it was now a museum, "The Cabildo" had been used for other purposes in an earlier era. After passing through a type of reception room on the street side of the building, we entered a large courtyard area in the middle of which stood a raised platform. Surrounding the courtyard on three sides were small rooms with barred fronts; they had been cells. In the pre-Civil War period the cells held slaves until auction time when they would be brought out to the raised platform and sold to the highest bidder.

Such a practice seems far removed from our present life, but in the New Testament times slavery was very much a part of the everyday scene. References to slaves are found throughout the letters of the Apostle Paul, and though it is pretty much disguised in our English translations, Paul frequently calls himself a slave. The Greek word is **doulos**. Paul understood literal slavery from having observed its practice everywhere he went in the Roman Empire, but he also understood from personal experience what slavery could mean in a spiritual sense, for he calls himself a slave (*doulos*) of Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:1).

The Greek noun *doulos* is related to the verb *deō*, meaning "to bind," so that Paul sees himself as bound to a Master, Jesus Himself. He had been bound by sin, but Jesus had freed him from sin and Paul gladly submits to his new Lord. Archbishop Trench, in his *Synonyms of the New Testament* (p.30), defines *doulos* as "one that is in a permanent relation of servitude to another, his will altogether swallowed up in the will of the other." Such was Paul. God, grant us all the freedom that comes with having Christ as Master.

Paul sees *doulos*, "servant" or "bond-slave," to describe his relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. How did it happen that Paul changed

allegiance? What caused the transition from slave of sin to bond-servant of Christ? There is an interesting group of New Testament words that can help us understand this dramatic turn in Paul's life. Let's start by remembering how Greek cities were laid out. At the heart of the first century cities that Paul and the apostles would have known was a marketplace, in Greek called the **agora**. Here the people of the city would come together for conducting public affairs, visiting friends, transacting business of all kinds, but especially for the buying and selling of goods. In Acts 17:17, we read of Paul's visit to Athens that "he disputed in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market (*agora*) daily with them that met with him."

The word *agora*, marketplace, then furnished the Greeks with two verbs: **agorazō**, "to buy," and **exagorazō**, literally "to buy out." Both words are used by Paul to describe the work that Christ has done in behalf of the believer. Paul reminds the Corinthians: "You are not your own . . . you have been bought (*agorazō*) with a price . . ." (I Cor. 6:19-20 NASB). And "For he who was called in the Lord while a slave, is the Lord's freedman; likewise he who was called while free, is Christ's slave. You were bought (*agorazō*) with a price; do not become slaves of men" (I Cor. 7:22-23 NASB). So, the believer, bound by sin and in the marketplace of the world, has been bought by Christ at the price of His own blood, His death on the cross. "Jesus paid it all; All to Him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain; He washed it white as snow."

Finally, in this group of related words is **exagorazō**, literally "to buy out of." Read carefully these verses from Galatians and see if you can tell which English word translates the Greek word *exagorazō*: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law" (3:13 NASB). "But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons" (4:4-5 NASB). If you said "redeem," you were right. The Greek word *exagorazō* has two parts. The *ex* means "out of," and the *agorazō* part means as we have seen "to buy"; so that together they mean to buy in the marketplace and to take out of the marketplace. The word is used especially of "purchasing a slave with a view to his freedom." (W.E. Vine, *Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, III, p.263.) We see then the full circle completed, from slave of sin to servant of Christ. Christ has found us slaves, purchased us with a price, redeemed us not simply to set us free to be on our own, but for something far better; He has set us free to serve God as our Master and to love Him as our Father.



# Inside our Foursquare family

## People:

### Jefferies and Purdy Claim "God Is Moving By His Spirit"

Returning home from a six week missionary trip, which took them over 22,000 miles to South America and South Africa, were Dr. Harold W. Jefferies, former pastor of the Portland, Or. Foursquare Church and former Supervisor who is now serving as minister at large representing the Foursquare Church, and Dr. Carl Purdy, pastor of the El Cajon, Ca. Foursquare Church. While in South America and South Africa they were privileged to minister to some 37,000 people of many congregations, including both Foursquare and the Apostolic Faith Mission churches of South Africa.

Dr. Jefferies reports, "Our preaching experiences were beyond our fondest dreams. Great revival was evidenced everywhere. Miracles of healing happened as the Word of God was being proclaimed. Hundreds upon hundreds accepted Christ as Savior, were healed and baptized in the Holy Spirit. In just one large tent meeting service outside Johannesburg, South Africa, where over 7,000 were in attendance, some 600 received the baptism of the Holy Spirit almost simultaneously as they stood before the large platform. The power of God was so powerfully present that we literally trembled as God performed such a miracle!"

They ministered, also, to the growing congregations of the Headquarters' churches in Bogota, Colombia and Sao Paulo, Brazil and were overwhelmed to find the Foursquare churches in these countries multiplying so rapidly that it is difficult to find workers to pastor the new believers. Dr. Jefferies and Dr. Purdy proclaim that, indeed, "God is moving by His Spirit!"

## Community Concern:

### S.S. Kids Monmouth, Illinois

While most churches were busy preparing for Easter services, the Monmouth, Illinois Foursquare Church was in the middle of an exciting KIDS' KRUSADE during the week prior to Easter. Pastor Tom Smith reports, "We constructed a ship across the front of the platform, which was called the S.S. Kids. Every night we docked our ship and brought our treasure chest off of it."

An average of 153 children enjoyed this nightly event, which included games, singing, and scripture memory. During offering time, boys and girls



competed against each other to see which group would bring in the most; the team captain of the losing team had to walk the plank into a big tank of water. Total offering for the week was \$303.00. Each evening also included Bible stories related to the sea and an exciting puppet show. The highlight was the visit from the pirate, who would sneak in and attempt to steal the treasure chest. There he was confronted by the captain and a sword fight would follow. Always defeated by the Word of God, the pirate would drop his sword and walk the plank.

The Monmouth church is still rejoicing over the 107 souls that were saved during this evangelistic endeavor!

### Circus Maranatha Decatur, Illinois

Circus Maranatha, a unique concept in sharing the Gospel message of salvation, was hosted by the Decatur, Illinois Foursquare Church as a celebration of this year's 200th Anniversary of the Sunday school.

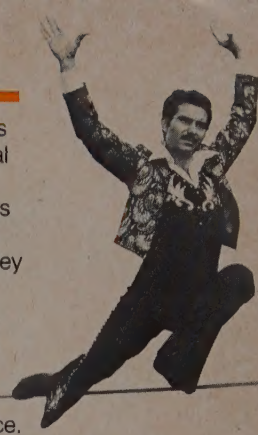
About 2,000 people gathered to watch Tino Wallenda Zoppe, a member of the well-known "Flying Wallendas" family and head of the Maranatha Circus which ministers to the family, as he played a drunk on top of a lamp post. His daughter, Alida, age 5, let it be known that drinking is a "no-no" and followed by quoting a passage of scripture to Tino to show him the error of his way.

Circus Maranatha entertains while preaching the message of the Gospel. During the performance Tino shared that there is a price he had to pay because of his daring acts on the tight rope and high wire. But he stressed that a bigger price was paid when Jesus Christ died on the cross for his sins. Several scripture verses were quoted during the circus performance and at the end members of the audience were invited to receive Jesus Christ into their hearts as Savior and Lord.

Included in the Circus performance

were highwire acts, acrobatics, clowns and the Bertini Troupe, the international unicycling champions from Czechoslovakia. Circus Maranatha has appeared on the PTL Club, CBS and ABC televisions, and the 700 Club. They were also the cover story in the July, 1979 issue of Christian Life Magazine.

Prior to the circus performance, the musical group "Master Control" from the Decatur Foursquare Church ministered in song to the large audience.



Tino Wallenda Zoppe entertains and shares Gospel message at Circus Maranatha.

## Church:

### "Behold An Open Door" Clinton, Iowa

"Behold An Open Door" was the theme of the week-long dedication of the new Clinton, Iowa Foursquare Church at the end of June. Guest speakers for the dedication services included Rev. L. T. Charter, Great Lakes District Supervisor; Dr. Charles Hollis, pastor of the Moline, Ill. Foursquare Church; and Rev. Harold Muetzel, new representative of Missions International.

The new church building was financed through gifts and funds from the congregation, and most of the construction which began last October

District Supervisor Charter and Pastor and Mrs. James Machen participate in dedication service.



was performed by them, as well. Rev. James L. Machen is the pastor of this beautiful Foursquare church. He and his wife, Sharon, celebrated their 11th anniversary of pastoring this congregation on the first day of the dedication activities. In those 11 years, the congregation has grown from 20 to 270 members.

### New Babies Assist In Church Growth Fairfield, Iowa

The Fairfield, Iowa Foursquare Church is experiencing growth, not just because of spiritual rebirths, but also due to the fact that twelve babies have been born to members of the





congregation in the last several months. Pastor Donald Hickman reports that this has required expansion of quarters, as the nursery was moved and a speaker was installed so the workers could hear a Sunday school lesson, as well as the church services. The United Foursquare Women provided additional nursery equipment and when each baby was born the U.F.W. presented a lovely gift package to the mother.

scripture, and by sharing what they had learned. At the close of the service the children were awarded for their attendance, memory verse work, and for bringing their Bibles and visitors to church. In addition, the boys and girls had been saving their pennies for the "Dollars for Darlings" project; a check for \$69.30 was sent for this ministry!

## New Parsonage Dedicated Mooreville, North Carolina

The entire congregation of the Mooreville, N.C. Foursquare Church participated in a beautiful dedication service of the new parsonage, which contains about 4,000 feet of heated space, a full basement, and is evaluated at about \$100,000.

Much of the work on this beautiful new home was done by the pastor, Rev. Jack Fox, as well as many of the church



members. Only a small mortgage is held on the parsonage as much of the materials and monies to build this new home were donated by the church membership.

## Freed from Indebtedness Bloomington, Illinois

Pastor Helen Harvey of the Bloomington, Ill. Foursquare Church reports that Sunday, May 11 not only marked the celebration of Mother's Day, but also the burning of the final mortgage on the Bloomington church



property! As Reverend Harvey and Reverend L.T. Charter, Great Lakes District Supervisor, struck the matches together, putting the flame to the mortgage papers, there were shouts of praise to God for His wonderful goodness.

The pay off on the property was made possible by the tithe of a young lady in the church who had received insurance monies after she had been widowed at the age of 18 when her young husband met with a tragic accident on the job. "We thank God for people who are faithful with their tithes in the big things as well as the little things," shares Pastor Harvey.

In the earlier part of 1980, the church was able to pay off the parsonage; now all indebtedness has been cleared on the Bloomington church properties!

## Present with the Lord:

**Robert F. Blanchfield**, a 1940 graduate of L.I.F.E. Bible College and brother of Rev. Raymond Blanchfield, passed away on May 10, 1980.

**Raymond Boatright**, a 1939 graduate of L.I.F.E. Bible College, went home to be with his Lord on June 27, 1980.

**Mollie E. Root**, a 1929 graduate of L.I.F.E. Bible College, was called to her heavenly reward on June 19, 1980.

**Frank Shannon** was called home to be with his Lord on April 30, 1980. He was a long time active member of the Vancouver, B.C., Canada Foursquare Church and was instrumental in helping to build three churches in the Vancouver area. A Scholarship Fund in his memory has been opened at L.I.F.E. Bible College of Canada.



The Omaha, Nebraska, Foursquare Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary with Dr. Rolf K. McPherson, President; Reverend and Mrs. Paul G. Jones, pastors; and Reverend Glenn Metzler, Midwest District Supervisor.

## Children Minister to Church Congregation

The children of the Cedar Avenue Foursquare Church in Fresno, Ca., pastored by Rev. and Mrs. John Harvey, ministered to the congregation by leading the Sunday morning service on June 8, Children's Day. During this service, which was titled "Jesus and Me," the children presented a program based on the knowledge and training they had received over the past several months. They ministered in music, Bible



## youth outlook

By Reverends Ed and Ivy Stanton  
National Youth Ministries Directors

During a recent summer camp, one of the men approached me and said, "You know, Ed, I believe God is about to move mightily in our community. I have just one concern. It's for the adults. I told them recently to either forge ahead or step aside because God is going to move and I see our youth hungry to be a part of it."

Although David has reached a point of ineffectual leadership in I Kings, chapter one, he failed to establish Solomon as king until Adonijah made a power play for rulership. How long would Israel have remained in limbo. Could it be that David simply missed the moment for releasing the next generation?

Releasing the next generation must be a difficult experience. Can we trust them to maintain and press on? Yes . . . if the young were trained in the ways of the Lord by the previous generation. Are the glaring weaknesses of the young a hindrance? Well, II Corinthians 12:9 answers us that grace is championed in weakness. Could it be the older ones know what cost and sacrifice has been made and fear the next generation will fail to make the same investment? Only Jesus knows. I see, however, a great capacity for sacrifice in this generation.

It is time to lead the young.

It is time to release youth into ministry.

It is time to advance against the gates of hell and release its captives.

It is time to forge ahead.

The time is now . . .



# Raymond Cox

## Current Events & Comments

May 18 dawned bright and clear over the Pacific Northwest. Few dreamed that the area's major news story and most colossal calamity in decades would explode into history that morning.

Melba Wilkinson and daughters Suzette and Sonya relaxed on the beach at Waldport, Oregon. The girls were building a sand castle which they called "Mount St. Helens" after a Washington volcano which had been teasing seismologists for weeks with mini-eruptions. As Suzette and Sonya pretended their volcano was getting ready to erupt, the real mountain blew its top — literally, losing over 1200 feet of its elevation. The Wilkinsons heard the actual blast well over one hundred miles away.

The eruption and subsequent damage cost almost one hundred lives and multiplied millions of dollars in damages over thousands of square miles.

Meanwhile, some scientific creationists discomfited evolutionists by pointing out that catastrophe caused in a few minutes geological changes for which evolutionary uniformity theories postulate as requiring thousands of millions of years!

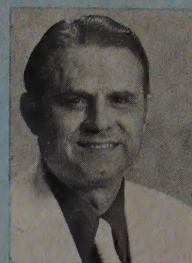
The Portland, Oregon area and Willamette Valley escaped the rain of volcanic ash which paralyzed communities to the east and north for days. But one week later, on May 25, the mountain erupted again, and winds wafted the ash southward. Portland airport had to shut down. I was to fly out of Portland at 7:10 a.m. the 26th, connect-

ing at Seattle with the flight to New York, and thence to Greece, Turkey, and Malta. United Airlines switched my itinerary, sending me from Eugene to San Francisco, to New York. Even so, I was uneasy, for radio reports mentioned that ash was falling as far south as Eugene. But I got away.

On Friday, the 13th of June, St. Helens exploded in its third major eruption. I learned about it from headlines on the front page of the Malta "Times" as I flew toward Rome and similarly on Rome's "Daily American" on Saturday the 14th. "You may not be able to get to Portland tonight," an Alitalia officer advised. I didn't, but it was because that flight was late into New York, arriving after the last available flight to Oregon.

Insurance companies called the eruptions acts of God. Certainly they dramatize the vastness of God's power in contrast to the impotence of man's preventive abilities with reference to natural phenomena. And scientific creationists can honestly claim confirmation for their contentions that God has shaped the configuration of this planet, not only because of geological changes at Spirit Lake and elsewhere, but also because of the speed of the build-up of the new lava dome which is surprising scientists.

Most famous casualty of the eruption was Harry Truman, 85 year old proprietor of the lodge at Spirit Lake. He refused to leave his property when ordered. He believed he could survive any eventuality. He died May 18. Hundreds of feet of mud now bury his lodge. He scoffed at physical danger. Far more tragic is the eternal loss which the unsaved suffer when they persist in ignoring appeals to let Jesus evacuate them from their sins. *"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation . . . ?"* (Hebrews 2:3).



## building a Christian library

The following books are recommended by Rev. Don Pickerill, pastor of Christian Assembly Foursquare Church in Eagle Rock, Ca. Rev. Pickerill also served on the L.I.F.E. Bible College faculty for 20 years.

**The New Bible Dictionary** edited by J.D. Douglas, Wm. B. Eerdmans, \$19.95.

Here is probably the best one-volume Bible dictionary available today. A Bible dictionary is a topical discussion of numerous subjects. It is an A to Z summary of biblical learning. Subjects included, for example, are: people and places, geography, history, customs, culture, etc. Theological themes are also given, such as: God, salvation, justification, the Holy Spirit, the Church, etc. Eventually, almost every believer will welcome the use of a good up-to-date Bible dictionary. I think this one is the best.

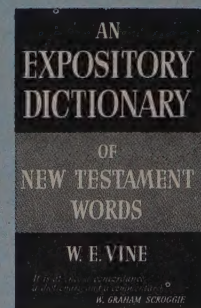
**The Way** by E. Stanley Jones, Doubleday & Co./Galilee, \$3.95.

E. Stanley Jones was one of the best known

missionary evangelists in modern times. He spent much of his time in India and founded the Ashram retreat movement. I had lunch with him just one time and have not been the same since, such was the power of his personal life with Christ. He was one of the most disciplined, godly men I have ever known. He wrote a whole series of books to be read as daily devotionals. The one called *The Way* is probably the best of them all. Jesus, of course, is *The Way*, as the book makes clear.

**An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words** by W.E. Vine, Fleming H. Revell, \$10.95.

This word study has become a valuable aid for many believers. It is bound to become a classic. It is a serious-minded book, but intended for nonspecialists with little or no knowledge of Greek. It is a sort of dictionary, concordance and commentary all rolled into one. Brief comments are given on Bible passages under carefully arranged headings.



You may purchase these books at your local Christian bookstore.



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<p>THERE IS A GAP BETWEEN SPIRITUAL LIFE AND SPIRITUAL DEATH. THERE IS A GAP BETWEEN SINFUL MAN AND A HOLY GOD. THERE IS A GAP BETWEEN THE CREATOR AND HIS CREATED CHILDREN.</p> <p><b>MAN</b></p> <p>"FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD." <i>ROM 3:23</i></p> <p><b>THE BIBLE SAYS</b></p> <p>"IN HIM (CHRIST) IS NO SIN." <i>1 JOHN 3:15</i></p>	<p>MAN IS HOPELESSLY SEPARATED FROM GOD!</p> <p><b>MAN</b></p> <p><b>SIN &amp; DEATH</b></p> <p>"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." <i>ROMANS 6:23</i></p> <p><b>THE SIN GAP</b></p> <p><b>RIGHTHOUSNESS AND ETERNAL LIFE</b></p>	<p>MAN TRIES TO <b>BRIDGE</b> THE GAP, BUT SINFUL MAN CAN NEVER REACH A HOLY GOD BY MAN-MADE BRIDGES. MAN'S WAY CAN ONLY LEAD TO <b>DEATH</b>!</p> <p>THERE IS A WAY THAT SEEMETH RIGHT UNTO MAN, BUT THE END THEREOF ARE THE WAYS OF DEATH. <i>PROV. 16:25 (READ ROM 3:10-12)</i></p>
<p><b>MAN</b></p> <p><b>SIN &amp; DEATH</b></p> <p>"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." <i>ROMANS 6:23</i></p> <p>INCOMPLETE BRIDGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHILOSOPHY</li> <li>• GOOD WORKS</li> <li>• CHURCH MEMBER SHIP</li> <li>• WATER BAPTISM</li> </ul> <p><b>RIGHTHOUSNESS AND ETERNAL LIFE</b></p> <p><b>BUT...</b></p>	<p>GOD HAS PROVIDED A WAY TO BRIDGE THE GAP...</p> <p>FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE." <i>JOHN 3:16</i></p> <p>JESUS CHRIST IS GOD'S WAY! HE IS NOT A WAY BUT <b>THE WAY...</b> THE ONLY WAY TO GOD!</p> <p>NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER, FOR THERE IS NO OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED. <i>ACTS 4:12</i></p>	<p>JESUS SAID, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME." <i>JOHN 14:6</i></p> <p><b>MAN</b></p> <p><b>JESUS CHRIST</b></p> <p><b>SIN &amp; DEATH</b></p> <p>"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." <i>ROMANS 6:23</i></p> <p><b>BUT...</b></p> <p>"THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD." <i>ROM 6:23</i></p>
<p>HOW DID JESUS CHRIST <b>BRIDGE</b> THE GAP FOR YOU?</p> <p>HE DIED FOR YOU! HE WAS BURIED FOR YOU! HE AROSE FOR YOU! HE LIVES FOR YOU! HE IS COMING FOR YOU!</p> <p>"IF THOU SHALT CONFESS WITH THY MOUTH THE LORD JESUS, AND SHALT BELIEVE IN THINE HEART THAT GOD HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, THOU SHALT BE SAVED." <i>ROM 10:9</i></p>	<p>HE IS SEEKING...</p> <p><b>Jesus SAID...</b></p> <p>Behold, I stand at the door and knock. <i>Revelation 3:20</i></p> <p><b>...YOU!</b></p>	<p>...IF ANYMAN HEAR MY VOICE AND OPEN THE DOOR I WILL COME IN. <i>Rev. 3:20</i></p> <p>WILL YOU OPEN THE DOOR OF YOUR LIFE NOW?</p>
<p>PRAY THIS SUGGESTED PRAYER OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS, AND JESUS CHRIST WILL COME IN NOW!</p> <p>"DEAR LORD JESUS, I OPEN THE DOOR OF MY LIFE, COME IN NOW! I REPENT OF MY SINS AND RECEIVE YOU AS MY PERSONAL SAVIOR AND LORD AND AS MY ONLY WAY TO GOD. THANK YOU FOR DYING ON THE CROSS FOR ME AND FOR COMING INTO MY LIFE AS YOU PROMISED IN YOUR WORD. AMEN."</p> <p>THIS DAY I HAVE RECEIVED CHRIST AS MY SAVIOR...</p> <p>DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____</p>	<p>NOW THAT YOU HAVE ACCEPTED CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOR, YOU WILL PROBABLY BE INTERESTED IN A HELPFUL BOOKLET.</p> <p><b>"NOW THAT YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN"</b></p> <p>THIS BOOKLET WILL LEAD YOU IN THE STUDY OF THE BIBLE AND ANSWER MANY QUESTIONS THAT CONFRONT A NEW CHRISTIAN PERTAINING TO SPIRITUAL LIFE.</p> <p>USE THE COUPON TO REQUEST YOUR COPY!</p>	<p>AFTER READING THIS BOOKLET I HAVE ACCEPTED JESUS CHRIST AS MY PERSONAL SAVIOR. PLEASE SEND ME YOUR FREE BOOKLET.</p> <p><b>"NOW THAT YOU'RE A CHRISTIAN"</b></p>

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